

Now, the Justice Department has convinced the President to stand behind a claim of executive privilege and refuse to release documents about this Salvati case, even though it has been on "60 Minutes," even though it has been publicized all over the world, to keep these documents covered up, in spite of repeated requests or demands from the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON), the chairman of the Committee on Government Reform. I want to say how much I admire and respect the courage of the gentleman from Indiana (Chairman BURTON) in continuing to hold a series of hearings in regard to this Salvati case and other abuses by the FBI and the Justice Department, especially in regard to this witness protection program.

I mentioned here yesterday that Chairman BURTON's statement that he has now made twice in hearings before the Committee on Government Reform was to me the most shocking statement I have heard in a congressional hearing since I have served in the Congress. I am in my 14th year. I serve on three different committees, five different subcommittees. I have participated in hundreds, possibly even several thousand committee and subcommittee hearings; and I think the statement that I am about to read was the most shocking statement I have ever heard a chairman or any Member, really, give in this Congress. Chairman BURTON has said now at two of our hearings this statement: "The United States Department of Justice allowed lying witnesses to send men to death row. It stood by idly while innocent men spent decades behind bars; it permitted informants to commit murder; it tipped off killers so that they could flee before they were caught; it interfered with local investigations of drug dealing and arms smuggling; and then when people went to the Justice Department with evidence about murders, some of them ended up dead."

This Salvati case, while I hope it is the worst example, is just the tip of the iceberg.

I can tell my colleagues this: there needs to be some reforms within the Justice Department and the FBI. I think the problem has come about because we have expanded those agencies so much and given them so much money that they do not know what to do with all of it.

Forbes Magazine, in 1993, had a cover article in which they said that we had quadrupled the Justice Department between 1980 and 1993 and that there were Federal prosecutors falling all over themselves trying to come up with cases to prosecute because they had so little to do, and that they were prosecuting businessmen and women who had violated obscure rules and regulations that they did not even know were in existence.

We need to be funneling our law enforcement assets to the local law enforcement people who are fighting the real crime, the street crime that people

want fought. Some of these Justice Department and FBI officials here in Washington never see a real criminal unless they are mugged on their way to their cars after work. But this idea, or this case, of keeping a man in prison for more than 30 years, even though they knew from the start of his innocence, they did not find out he was innocent after he had been in jail 25 years or so, they knew from the start that he was innocent. To do that to protect a man that had committed 26 murders is just, to me, mind-boggling. It is unbelievable.

They told in this hearing that Barboza's defense lawyer was given great assistance by the Federal Government while the prosecutors were snubbed when they asked for help. A murder weapon in one case was conveniently lost by the FBI. Barboza's own lawyer called him one of the worst men on the face of the Earth.

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When asked about the short prison term that Barbosa got in one case, one murder that he committed after he was in the witness protection program, his lawyer said that that was amazing, he figured out that must be how it worked when you had friends in the FBI.

I can tell the Members, the people of this country need to know that we desperately need reforms at the Justice Department and the FBI. Joseph Califano, a former Cabinet member under President Carter and adviser to President Clinton, wrote in a Washington Post column a few days ago, "In the war on terrorism, we need not to overlook the alarming rise in Federal police power that is going on, and not create some type of Federal police state that will abuse citizens in horrible ways."

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SWEENEY). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. FILNER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PALLONE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MCGOVERN addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

OMITTED FROM THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD OF WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 27, 2002 AT PAGE H564

OKLAHOMA SECRETARY OF STATE,
Oklahoma City, OK, January 14, 2002.

Hon. JEFF TRANDAH, L.,
House of Representatives, The Capitol,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. TRANDAH: Pursuant to Enrolled Senate Bill 7X from the 1st Extraordinary Session of the 48th Legislative Session, and due to the resignation of Steve Largent, United States House of Representatives, effective February 15, 2002, I herewith certify the election results of the Special General Election held on January 8, 2002 for the Office of United States House of Representatives District 1, as certified by the Oklahoma State Election Board this 14th day of January, 2002.

Also, enclosed is a copy of the official notice of resignation from Steve Largent, Congressman of the First District of Oklahoma; and a copy of Enrolled Senate Bill 7X.

If our office can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Kathy Jekel at 405-522-4564.

Sincerely,

MIKE HUNTER,
Secretary of State.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF
OKLAHOMA

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR UNEXPIRED
TERM

This is to certify that on the 8th day of January, 2002, John Sullivan was duly chosen by the qualified electors of the State of Oklahoma as United States Representative, District Number 1, as Representative for the unexpired term ending at noon on the 3rd day of January, 2003, to fill the vacancy in the representation from said State in the United States House of Representatives caused by the resignation of Steve Largent.

Witness: His Excellency our Governor Frank Keating, and our Seal hereto affixed at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma this 14th day of January, 2002.

By the Governor:

Frank Keating, Governor.
Mike Hunter, Secretary of State.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. SANDLIN (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of family matters.

Mr. GILMAN (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for February 26 and the balance of the week on account of personal reasons.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. McNULTY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. LANGEVIN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FILNER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MCGOVERN, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia)